FATENT COOPERATION TREATY

| | From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU |
|---|---|
| PCT | То: |
| NOTIFICATION OF ELECTION (PCT Rule 61.2) | United States Patent and Trademark Office (Box PCT) Crystal Plaza 2 Washington, DC 20231 ÉTATS-UNIS D'AMÉRIQUE |
| Date of mailing (day/month/year) 02 March 1999 (02.03.99) | in its capacity as elected Office |
| International application No. PCT/US98/15229 | Applicant's or agent's file reference AD6516 |
| International filing date (day/month/year) 23 July 1998 (23.07.98) | Priority date (day/month/year) 25 July 1997 (25.07.97) |
| Applicant GARCIA DURAN, Juan-Antonio et al | |
| in a notice effecting later election filed with the International Preliminary 27 January 19 in a notice effecting later election filed with the International Preliminary 2. The election X was was not made before the expiration of 19 months from the priority of Rule 32.2(b). | 99 (27.01.99) national Bureau on: |
| The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland | Authorized officer Lazar Joseph Panakal |

Telephone No.: (41-22) 338.83.38

Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

RECEIVED

From the

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINING AUTHORITY

E. I. DU PONT DE NEMOURS AND COMPANY

LEGAL PATENT RECORDS CENTER

SEP 20 1999

PCT PATENT RECORDS

NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL OF INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Rule 71.1)

Date of Mailing (day/month/year)

15 SEP 1999

Applicant's or agent's file reference

To: PATRICIA L. KELLY

1007 MARKET STREET

WILMINGTON, DE 19898

AD6516

IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION

International application No.

International fiting date (day/month/year)

Priority Date (day/month/year)

PCT/US98/15229

23 JULY 1998

25 JULY 1997

Applicant

E. I. DU PONT DE NEMOURS AND COMPANY

- 1. The applicant is hereby notified that this International Preliminary Examining Authority transmits herewith the international preliminary examination report and its annexes, if any, established on the international application.
- 2. A copy of the report and its annexes, if any, is being transmitted to the International Bureau for communication to all the elected Offices.
- 3. Where required by any of the elected Offices, the International Bureau will prepare an English translation of the report (but not of any annexes) and will transmit such translation to those Offices.

4. REMINDER

The applicant must enter the national phase before each elected Office by performing certain acts (filing translations and paying national fees) within 30 months from the priority date (or later in some Offices)(Article 39(1))(see also the reminder sent by the International Bureau with Form PCT/IB/301).

Where a translation of the international application must be furnished to an elected Office, that translation must contain a translation of any annexes to the international preliminary examination report. It is the applicant's responsibility to prepare and furnish such translation directly to each elected Office concerned.

For further details on the applicable time limits and requirements of the elected Offices, see Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide.

Name and mailing address of the IPEA/US

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Box PCT Washington, D.C. 20231

Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230

Authorized officer

MARK WARZEL

Telephone No. (703) 308-0661

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

| Applicant's or agent's file reference | FOR FURTHER ACTIO | N See Notif | ication of Transmittal of International Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416) |
|---|--|--|---|
| AD6516 International application No. | International filing date (da | | Priority date (day/month/year) |
| PCT/US98/15229 | 23 JULY 1998 | <i>y,</i> 2 <i>y</i> 2 <i>,</i> | 25 JULY 1997 |
| International Patent Classification (IPC) of Please See Supplemental Sheet. | <u> </u> | IPC | |
| Applicant E. I. DU PONT DE NEMOURS AND | COMPANY | | • |
| Examining Authority and is 2. This REPORT consists of a This report is also accombeen amended and are the (see Rule 70.16 and Sec | total of sheets. apanied by ANNEXES, i.e., ne basis for this report and/o tion 607 of the Administrat | ant according to sheets of the des r sheets containi | cription, claims and/or drawings which have ng rectifications made before this Authority. |
| These annexes consist of a to | otal of sheets. | | |
| IV Lack of unity of V X Reasoned statemer citations and explain VI Certain documents VII Certain defects in the | ort nt of report with regard to invention nt under Article 35(2) with anations supporting such sta | novelty, inver regard to novel atement | ative step or industrial applicability |
| Date of submission of the demand | [| Date of completion | n of this report |
| 27 JANUARY 1999 | | 30 JULY 1999 | |
| Name and mailing address of the IPEA/Commissioner of Patents and Traden Box PCT Washington, D.C. 20231 Facsimile No. (703) 305-3236 | narks | MARK WARZ | ZEL (703) 308-0661 |

International application No.

PCT/US98/15229

| | f the report | | | |
|------------------|---------------------------|---|--|---|
| 1. This report I | nas been drawn on the l | oasis of (Substitute sheets v this report as "originally fil | which have been furnished to the receiving Office in led" and are not annexed to the report since they do | n response to an invitation not contain amendments): |
| x | 7 | l application as origin | | |
| X | the description, | pages 1-8 | , as originally filed. | |
| ٠, | • | pages NONE | , filed with the demand. | |
| | | pages NONE | , filed with the letter of | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · |
| | | pages | , filed with the letter of | • |
| [x | the claims, | Nos. <u>1-6</u> | _ , as originally filed. | |
| - | - | Nos. NONE | , as amended under Article 19. | |
| | | Nos. NONE | _ , filed with the demand. | • |
| • | | Nos. NONE | , filed with the letter of | |
| | | Nos | , filed with the letter of | · |
| <u> </u> | the drawings, | sheets/fig None | , as originally filed. | |
| | ני | sheets/fig NONE | , filed with the demand. | |
| | • | sheets/fig NONE | , filed with the letter of | · |
| | | | filed with the letter of | |
| 3. | the claims, the drawings, | established as if (some o | of) the amendments had not been made, since ed in the Supplemental Box Additional observ | they have been considered vations below (Rule 70.2(c)). |
| | | | | .* |
| 4. Addition | onal observations, i | f necessary: | | • • |
| | | | | |
| | | | • | |
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| | | | | |
| i | | | | |

International application No.

PCT/US98/15229

| V. | . Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to | novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; |
|----|---|--|
| | citations and explanations supporting such statement | |

| 1. STATEMENT | | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------|-------------|--------|
| Novelty (N) | Claims Claims | NONE | YES NO |
| Inventive Step (IS) | Claims Claims | NONE 1-6 | YES NO |
| Industrial Applicability (IA) | Claims Claims | 1-6 NONE | YES NO |

2. CITATIONS AND EXPLANATIONS

Claims 1-6 lack an inventive step under PCT Article 33(3) as being obvious over Hwang et al. (US 5,424,362) in combination with the status of the art, as evidenced by Forry et al. (US 5,276,082).

Hwang et al. discloses polyolefin compositions comprising (A) at least one polypropylene or graft-modified polypropylene, (B) 0 to about 40 percent of at least one nongrafted or graft-modified substantially linear ethylene polymer and (C) 0 to about 50 percent of an interpolymer of ethylene and an unsaturated carbonyl compound.

The linear ethylene polymer is within the scope of the claims since the density is typically within the range of between about 0.85 to about 0.92 g/cm³ and it may be grafted with a carboxylic acid or anhydride such as maleic anhydride. The combination of graft-modified and ungrafted linear ethylene polymer is also disclosed since the graft-modified polymer may be diluted with ungrafted polymer (e.g. col. 6, lines 46-58).

The ethylene interpolymer is a copolymer or terpolymer of ethylene and additional comonomers such as vinyl acetate and carbon monoxide (e.g., col. 5, lines 15-46). Hwang does not specifically disclose a terpolymer of ethylene, vinyl acetate and carbon monoxide, however, both ethylene/vinyl acetate and ethylene/carbon monoxide copolymers are disclosed. Coupled with the disclosure that ethylene terpolymers are intended to be utilized it would be expected that such ethylene/vinyl acetate/carbon monoxide terpolymers would function as equivalents for the disclosed copolymers.

The claims therefore lack an inventive step over Hwang et al. (US 5,424,362) since the combination of the claimed ethylene polymer, grafted ethylene polymer and ethylene/vinyl acetate/carbon monoxide terpolymer is suggested.

Hwang et al. does not specifically disclose the addition of fillers such as aluminum trihydrate and calcined clay according to the claims. However, the claims lack an inventive step over Hwang et al. and the status of the art since each of these fillers is recognized in the art to provide useful properties to molding compositions. For example, aluminum trihydrate is known to be useful to modify composition processing characteristics and provide fire resistance in molding compositions. Calcined clays are also known to be conventional fillers which provide reinforcement and indentation resistance while allowing for a reasonable amount of flexibility. Forry et al. furthermore disclose that it is known in the art to utilize fillers such as alumina trihydrate and calcined clays for such reasons (e.g. col. 8, lines 6-42), particularly in compositions comprising ethylene/vinyl acetate/carbon monoxide terpolymers (col. 6, line 62 to col. 7, line 4), EVA and/or polyolefins according to the instant invention.

Claims 1-6 meet the requirement of industrial applicability as defined by PCT Article 33(4) since the composition is useful to prepare shaped articles such as for wire and cable coatings and floor tiles.

The argument that the present invention does not contain polypropylene or a nongrafted or graft-modified substantially linear ethylene polymer and an interpolymer of ethylene and an unsaturated carbonyl compound according to Hwang's invention is not persuasive since none of these components are excluded from the claimed (Continued on Supplemental Sheet.)

International application No.

PCT/US98/15229

| Sup | plem | ental | Box |
|-----|------|-------|-----|
|-----|------|-------|-----|

(To be used when the space in any of the preceding boxes is not sufficient)

Continuation of: Boxes I - VIII

Sheet 10

CLASSIFICATION:

The International Patent Classification (IPC) and/or the National classification are as listed below: IPC(6): CO8L 51/06; CO8K 3/00, 3/26, 3/32 and US Cl.: 524/504, 524, 531, 400, 416, 425, 444, 445, 451

V. 2. REASONED STATEMENTS - CITATIONS AND EXPLANATIONS (Continued):

invention. In addition, Hwang's interpolymer of ethylene and an unsaturated carbonyl compound is considered to suggest the use of the claimed ethylene/vinyl acetate/carbon monoxide terpolymer of the claims and the grafted linear ethylene polymer meets the limitations of the claimed component (3).

The argument that the present invention does not specifically refer to an ethylene/vinyl acetate/carbon monoxide (EVACO) terpolymer is not persuasive since the disclosure of EVA and ECO copolymers coupled with the disclosure that terpolymers which may comprise ethylene, vinyl acetate and/or carbon monoxide may be present is sufficient to suggest to one of ordinary skill in the art that EVACO terpolymers are intended to be within the group of terpolymers which may be present.

The argument that there is no disclosure of the same problem addressed by the present invention is not persuasive since the same problem and solution need not be disclosed by a particular reference in order for the claimed invention to lack an inventive step.

The argument that there is no suggestion to utilize the specific claimed fillers is not persuasive since the addition of clays and alumina trihydrate are known in the art to provide particular benefits to polymer compositions, as evidenced by Forry et al., such that their presence would be expected to add these characteristics to the composition of Hwang et al.

| | NEW | CITATIONS | |
|------|-----|-----------|--|
| NONE | | | |

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

| From the INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAM | MINING AUTHORFO | EIVED | | |
|--|---|----------------------------------|--------------------|--|
| To: PATRICIA L. KELLY E. I. DU PONT DE NEMOURS A LEGAL PATENT RECORDS CE | AND COMPANY HEY | 3 1999 | PC' | • |
| 1007 MARKET STREET | DATEN | T RECORDS | WRITTEN (| OPINION |
| WILMINGTON, DE 19898 | PAIC PAIC | ENTER | (PCT Ru | le 66) |
| | | | | |
| . M. | AY 06,1999 | | | |
| | | Date of Mailing (day/month/year) | 28 AF | PR 1999 |
| Applicant's or agent's file reference AD6516 | | | vithin TWO mo | |
| International application No. | International filing date | (day/month/year) | Priority date (| day/month/year) |
| PCT/US98/15229 | 23 JULY 1998 | | 25 JULY I | 997 |
| International Patent Classification (IPC) Please See Supplemental Sheet. | or both national classific | ation and IPC | | |
| Applicant E. I. DU PONT DE NEMOURS AND | COMPANY | | , | |
| This written opinion is the first | (first, etc.) (| lrawn by this Intern | ational Prelimina | ary Examining Authority. |
| 2. This opinion contains indications re | lating to the following ite | ems: | | |
| 1 X Basis of the opinion | | • | | · <u>.</u> |
| II Priority | • | | | |
| | opinion with regard to n | ovelty inventive ste | en or industrial a | innlicahility |
| IV Lack of unity of inve | | · | ,p or madomar a | ,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,, |
| V Reasoned statement i | | | inventive step of | or industrial applicability; |
| VI Certain documents ci | ited | | | |
| VII Certain defects in the | international application | | | |
| | on the international appli | | | |
| 3. The applicant is hereby invited to re | | | | |
| | | icant-may, before th | s expiration of t | hat-time-limit, request this |
| Authority to grant a | n extension., see Rule 66 itten reply, accompanied, | 5 .2(d). | | |
| | e language of the amend | | | |
| For the examiner's | oportunity to submit ame obligation to consider am nmunication with the exa | endments and/or arg | guments, see Ru | le 66.4 bis. |
| If no reply is filed, the internation | nal preliminary examinat | ion report will be es | tablished on the | basis of this opinion. |
| 4. The final date by which the interna examination report must be established. | tional preliminary shed according to Rule 6 | 9.2 is: <u>25 NOVEM</u> | BER 1999 | · |
| Name and mailing address of the IPEA | AUS. | Authorized office | | BRIAN A. HARDEN |
| Commissioner of Patents and Trade | | | - 41 | RALEGAL SPECIALIST |
| Box PCT Washington, D.C. 20231 | | MARK WARZ | | GROUP 1700 |
| Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230 | | Telephone No. | (703) 308-0661 | the state of the s |

Form PCT/IPEA/408 (cover sheet) (January 1994)*

5.5.99 TRB NOTED



WRITTEN OPINION

International application No.

PCT/US98/15229

| | | | sheets which have been furnished to the receiv | ing Office in response to an |
|------------------------------|--|---|--|------------------------------|
| | | referred to in this opinion | | |
| x | the internations | al application as orig | inally filed. | |
| x | the description, | pages 1-8 | , as originally filed. | |
| | _ | | , filed with the demand. | |
| | · | pages NONE | , filed with the letter of | |
| C==3 | the claims, | Nos. 1-6 | , as originally filed. | |
| x | the claims, | Nos. NONE | , as originally fried, as amended under Article 19. | |
| | | Nos. NONE | , filed with the demand. | |
| | | Nos. NONE | , filed with the letter of | · . |
| | | | • | |
| x | the drawings, | shasta/Ga None | , as originally filed. | • |
| | the drawings, | - | , as originally filed, filed with the demand. | |
| • | | - | , filed with the letter of | |
| | | sneets /rig /ronz | , med with the letter of | · |
| | | • • | • | 4 * |
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| X | the description, | | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · | |
| x | the description, | pages NONE Nos. NONE | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · | |
| | the claims, | | | |
| X X This con (Ru Additiona | the claims, the drawings, s | Nos. NONE sheets/fig NONE en established as if (so | ome of) the amendments had not been ned, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Ad | |
| X X This con (Ru | the claims, the drawings, s s opinion has bee sidered to go beyo ale 70.2(c)). | Nos. NONE sheets/fig NONE en established as if (so and the disclosure as file f necessary: | ed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Ad | dditional observations bel |
| X X This con (Ru Additiona | the claims, the drawings, s s opinion has bee sidered to go beyo ale 70.2(c)). | Nos. NONE sheets/fig NONE en established as if (so and the disclosure as file f necessary: | ed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Ad | dditional observations bel |
| X X This con (Ru Additiona | the claims, the drawings, s s opinion has bee sidered to go beyo ale 70.2(c)). | Nos. NONE sheets/fig NONE en established as if (so and the disclosure as file f necessary: | ed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Ad | dditional observations bel |
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| This con (Ru Additional | the claims, the drawings, s s opinion has bee sidered to go beyo le 70.2(c)). | Nos. NONE sheets/fig NONE en established as if (so end the disclosure as file f necessary: | ed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Ad | dditional observations belo |
| This con (Ru Additional | the claims, the drawings, s s opinion has bee sidered to go beyo ale 70.2(c)). | Nos. NONE sheets/fig NONE en established as if (so end the disclosure as file f necessary: | ed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Ad | dditional observations belo |

WRITTEN OPINION

International application No.

PCT/US98/15229

| V. | Reasoned statement under Rule 66.2(a)(ii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applications and applications are statement under Rule 66.2(a)(ii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applications are statement under Rule 66.2(a)(ii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applications are statement under Rule 66.2(a)(iii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applications are statement under Rule 66.2(a)(iii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applications are statement under Rule 66.2(a)(iii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applications are statement under Rule 66.2(a)(iii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applications are statement under Rule 66.2(a)(iii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applications are statement under Rule 66.2(a)(iii) with regard to novelty and inventive step or industrial applications are statement under Rule 66.2(a) (iii) with regard to novelty and inventive step or industrial applications are statement under Rule 66.2(a) (iii) with regard to novelty application are statement under Rule 66.2(a) (iii) with regard to novelty application are statement under Rule 66.2(a) (iii) with regard to novelty application are statement under Rule 66.2(a) (iii) with regard to novelty application are statement under Rule 66.2(a) (iii) with regard to novelty application are statement under Rule 66.2(a) (iii) with regard to novelty application are statement under Rule 66.2(a) (iii) with regard to novelty application are statement under Rule 66.2(a) (iii) with regard to novelty application are statement under Rule 66.2(a) (iii) with regard to novelty application are statement under Rule 66.2(a) (iii) with regard to novelty application are statement under Rule 66.2(a) (iii) with regard to novelty application are statement under Rule 66.2(a) (iii) with regard to novelty application are statement under Rule 66.2(a) (iii) with regard to novelty application are statement unde | licability; |
|----|--|-------------|
| | citations and explanations supporting such statement | |

| 1. | STATEMENT | | | |
|----|-------------------------------|--------|------|-----|
| | Novelty (N) | Claims | 1-6 | YES |
| | | Claims | NONE | NO |
| | Inventive Step (IS) | Claims | NONE | YES |
| | | Claims | 1-6 | NO |
| | Industrial Applicability (IA) | Claims | 1-6 | YES |
| | measurer reprinability (IA) | 01.: | NONE | NO |

2. CITATIONS AND EXPLANATIONS

Form PCT/IPEA/408 (Box V) (January 1994)+

Claims 1-6 lack an inventive step under PCT Article 33(3) as being obvious over Hwang et al. (US 5,424,362) in combination with the status of the art.

Hwang et al. discloses polyolefin compositions comprising (A) at least one polypropylene or graft-modified polypropylene, (B) 0 to about 40 percent of at least one nongrafted or graft-modified substantially linear ethylene polymer and (C) 0 to about 50 percent of an interpolymer of ethylene and an unsaturated carbonyl compound.

The linear ethylene polymer is within the scope of the claims since the density is typically within the range of between about 0.85 to about 0.92 g/cm³ and it may be grafted with a carboxylic acid or anhydride such as maleic anhydride. The combination of graft-modified and ungrafted linear ethylene polymer is also disclosed since the graft-modified polymer may be diluted with ungrafted polymer (e.g. col. 6, lines 46-58).

The ethylene interpolymer is a copolymer or terpolymer of ethylene and additional comonomers such as vinyl acetate and carbon monoxide (e.g., col. 5, lines 15-46). Hwang does not specifically disclose a terpolymer of ethylene, vinyl acetate and carbon monoxide, however, both ethylene/vinyl acetate and ethylene/carbon monoxide copolymers are disclosed. Coupled with the disclosure that ethylene terpolymers are intended to be utilized it would be expected that such ethylene/vinyl acetate/carbon monoxide terpolymers would function as equivalents for the disclosed copolymers.

The claims therefore lack an inventive step over Hwang et al. (US 5,424,362) since the combination of the claimed ethylene polymer, grafted ethylene polymer and ethylene/vinyl acetate/carbon monoxide terpolymer is suggested.

Hwang et al. does not specifically disclose the addition of fillers such as aluminum trihydrate and calcined clay according to the claims. However, the claims lack an inventive step over Hwang et al. and the status of the art since each of these fillers is recognized in the art to provide useful properties to molding compositions. For example, aluminum trihydrate is known to be useful to modify composition processing characteristics and provide fire resistance in molding compositions. Calcined clays are also known to be conventional fillers which provide reinforcement and indentation resistance while allowing for a reasonable amount of flexibility.

Claims 1-6 meet the requirement of industrial applicability as defined by PCT Article 33(4) since the composition is useful to prepare shaped articles such as for wire and cable coatings and floor tiles.

WRITTEN OPINION

International application No.

PCT/US98/15229

Supplemental Box

(To be used when the space in any of the preceding boxes is not sufficient)

Continuation of: Boxes I - VIII

Sheet 10

TIME LIMIT:

The time limit set for response to a Written Opinion may not be extended. 37 CFR 1.484(d). Any response received after the expiration of the time limit set in the Written Opinion will not be considered in preparing the International Preliminary Examination Report.

CLASSIFICATION:

The International Patent Classification (IPC) and/or the National classification are as listed below: IPC(6): CO8L 51/06; CO8K 3/00, 3/26, 3/32 and US Cl.: 524/504, 524, 531, 400, 416, 425, 444, 445, 451

5030 00/ 462971

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

| REC'D | 2 0 | SEP | 1999 | |
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PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

| Applicant's or agent's file reference | FOR FURTHER ACTION | See Notification of Transmittal of International | | | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| AD6516 | | Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416) | | | | | | |
| International application No. | International filing date (day/m | onth/year) Priority date (day/month/year) | | | | | | |
| PCT/US98/15229 | 23 JULY 1998 | 25 JULY 1997 | | | | | | |
| International Patent Classification (IPC) of Please See Supplemental Sheet. | or national classification and IPC | | | | | | | |
| Applicant E. I. DU PONT DE NEMOURS AND COMPANY | | | | | | | | |
| Examining Authority and is 2. This REPORT consists of a This report is also accombeen amended and are the (see Rule 70.16 and Sec | total of sheets spanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheet basis for this report and/or she tion 607 of the Administrative | ets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have eets containing rectifications made before this Authority. | | | | | | |
| These annexes consist of a to | otal of O sheets. | | | | | | | |
| 3. This report contains indications relating to the following items: I X Basis of the report II Priority III Non-establishment of report with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability IV Lack of unity of invention V X Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability citations and explanations supporting such statement VI Certain documents cited VII Certain defects in the international application VIII Certain observations on the international application | | | | | | | | |
| Date of submission of the demand | Date | of completion of this report | | | | | | |
| 27 JANUARY 1999 | 3 | 0 JULY 1999 | | | | | | |
| Name and mailing address of the IPEA Commissioner of Patents and Trade Box PCT Washington, D.C. 20231 Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230 | marka | orized officer Control MARK WARZEL phone No. (703) 308-0661 | | | | | | |

International application No.
PCT/US98/15229

| I. Basis of the report | | | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| 1. This report has been drawn on the basis of Substitute sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation | | | | | | | | |
| under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to the report since they do not contain amendments): | | | | | | | | |
| х | the international | application as original | lly filed. | | | | | |
| X | the description, | pages 1-8 | , as originally filed. | | | | | |
| _ | | pages NONE | , filed with the demand. | | | | | |
| | | pages NONE | , filed with the letter of | | | | | |
| | | pages | , filed with the letter of | | | | | |
| [X] | the claims, | Nos. <u>1-6</u> | , as originally filed. | | | | | |
| | | Nos. NONE | , as amended under Article 19. | | | | | |
| | | Nos. NONE | , filed with the demand. | | | | | |
| l I | | Nos. NONE | , filed with the letter of | | | | | |
| | | Nos | , filed with the letter of | | | | | |
| x | the drawings, | sheets/fig None | , as originally filed. | | | | | |
| | | sheets/fig NONE | , filed with the demand. | | | | | |
| 1 | | sheets/fig NONE | , filed with the letter of | | | | | |
| | | sheets /fig | , filed with the letter of | | | | | |
| L to 8 | the claims, the drawings, s report has been e | sheets/Fig NONE stablished as if (some of) osure as filed, as indicated | the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered in the Supplemental Box Additional observations below (Rule 70.2(c)). | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |



International application No.

PCT/US98/15229

| | citations and xplanations supporting such statement | | | | | | | |
|----|---|--------|------|-----|--|--|--|--|
| 1. | STATEMENT | | | | | | | |
| | Novelty (N) | Claims | 1-6 | YES | | | | |
| | , , | Claims | NONE | NO | | | | |
| | Inventive Step (IS) | Claims | NONE | YES | | | | |
| | miduito step (15) | Claims | 1-6 | NO | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| | Industrial Applicability (IA) | Claims | 1-6 | YES | | | | |
| | •• | Claims | NONE | NO | | | | |

V. R asoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard t n velty, inventive step or industrial applicability;

2. CITATIONS AND EXPLANATIONS

Claims 1-6 lack an inventive step under PCT Article 33(3) as being obvious over Hwang et al. (US 5,424,362) in combination with the status of the art, as evidenced by Forry et al. (US 5,276,082).

Hwang et al. discloses polyolefin compositions comprising (A) at least one polypropylene or graft-modified polypropylene, (B) 0 to about 40 percent of at least one nongrafted or graft-modified substantially linear ethylene polymer and (C) 0 to about 50 percent of an interpolymer of ethylene and an unsaturated carbonyl compound.

The linear ethylene polymer is within the scope of the claims since the density is typically within the range of between about 0.85 to about 0.92 g/cm³ and it may be grafted with a carboxylic acid or anhydride such as maleic anhydride. The combination of graft-modified and ungrafted linear ethylene polymer is also disclosed since the graft-modified polymer may be diluted with ungrafted polymer (e.g. col. 6, lines 46-58).

The ethylene interpolymer is a copolymer or terpolymer of ethylene and additional comonomers such as vinyl acetate and carbon monoxide (e.g., col. 5, lines 15-46). Hwang does not specifically disclose a terpolymer of ethylene, vinyl acetate and carbon monoxide, however, both ethylene/ vinyl acetate and ethylene/carbon monoxide copolymers are disclosed. Coupled with the disclosure that ethylene terpolymers are intended to be utilized it would be expected that such ethylene/vinyl acetate/carbon monoxide terpolymers would function as equivalents for the disclosed copolymers.

The claims therefore lack an inventive step over Hwang et al. (US 5,424,362) since the combination of the claimed ethylene polymer, grafted ethylene polymer and ethylene/vinyl acetate/carbon monoxide terpolymer is suggested.

Hwang et al. does not specifically disclose the addition of fillers such as aluminum trihydrate and calcined clay according to the claims. However, the claims lack an inventive step over Hwang et al. and the status of the art since each of these fillers is recognized in the art to provide useful properties to molding compositions. For example, aluminum trihydrate is known to be useful to modify composition processing characteristics and provide fire resistance in molding compositions. Calcined clays are also known to be conventional fillers which provide reinforcement and indentation resistance while allowing for a reasonable amount of flexibility. Forry et al. furthermore disclose that it is known in the art to utilize fillers such as alumina trihydrate and calcined clays for such reasons (e.g. col. 8, lines 6-42), particularly in compositions comprising ethylene/vinyl acetate/carbon monoxide terpolymers (col. 6, line 62 to col. 7, line 4), EVA and/or polyolefins according to the instant invention.

Claims 1-6 meet the requirement of industrial applicability as defined by PCT Article 33(4) since the composition is useful to prepare shaped articles such as for wire and cable coatings and floor tiles.

The argument that the present invention does not contain polypropylene or a nongrafted or graft-modified substantially linear ethylene polymer and an interpolymer of ethylene and an unsaturated carbonyl compound according to Hwang's invention is not persuasive since none of these components are excluded from the claimed (Continued on Supplemental Sheet.)





PCT/US98/15229

| Supplemental Box | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| (T be used when the space in any | f the preceding boxes is not sufficient) |

Continuation f: Boxes I - VIII

Sheet 10

CLASSIFICATION:

The International Patent Classification (IPC) and/or the National classification are as listed below: IPC(6): CO8L 51/06; CO8K 3/00, 3/26, 3/32 and US Cl.: 524/504, 524, 531, 400, 416, 425, 444, 445, 451

V. 2. REASONED STATEMENTS - CITATIONS AND EXPLANATIONS (Continued):

invention. In addition, Hwang's interpolymer of ethylene and an unsaturated carbonyl compound is considered to suggest the use of the claimed ethylene/vinyl acetate/carbon monoxide terpolymer of the claims and the grafted linear ethylene polymer meets the limitations of the claimed component (3).

The argument that the present invention does not specifically refer to an ethylene/vinyl acetate/carbon monoxide (EVACO) terpolymer is not persuasive since the disclosure of EVA and ECO copolymers coupled with the disclosure that terpolymers which may comprise ethylene, vinyl acetate and/or carbon monoxide may be present is sufficient to suggest to one of ordinary skill in the art that EVACO terpolymers are intended to be within the group of terpolymers which may be present.

The argument that there is no disclosure of the same problem addressed by the present invention is not persuasive since the same problem and solution need not be disclosed by a particular reference in order for the claimed invention to lack an inventive step.

The argument that there is no suggestion to utilize the specific claimed fillers is not persuasive since the addition of clays and alumina trihydrate are known in the art to provide particular benefits to polymer compositions, as evidenced by Forry et al., such that their presence would be expected to add these characteristics to the composition of Hwang et al.

| | NEW | CITATIONS | |
|------|-----|-----------|--|
| NONE | | | |

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

| Applicant's or agent's file reference AD6516 | FOR FURTHER see Notific ACTION (Form PCT | ation of Transmittal of International Search Report /ISA/220) as well as, where applicable, item 5 below. |
|--|---|--|
| International application No. | International filing date (day/mont) | h/year) (Earliest) Priority Date |
| PCT/US98/15229 | 23 JULY 1998 | 25 JULY 1997 |
| Applicant E. I. DU PONT DE NEMOURS AND | COMPANY | |
| according to Article 18. A copy is bett | ng transmitted to the International Bure | ning Authority and is transmitted to the applicant |
| This international search report consist | | |
| It is also accompanied by a | copy of each prior art document cited | in this report. |
| 1. Certain claims were found | unsearchable (See Box I). | · |
| | | |
| 2. Unity of invention is lacking | g (See Box II). | |
| | : | • |
| international search was carri | ed out on the basis of the sequence lis | and/or amino acid sequence listing and the |
| ¹ | iled with the international application. | |
| 1 | umished by the applicant separately fr | om the international application, |
| | but not accompanied by a going beyond the disclos | statement to the effect that it did not include matter ure in the international application as filed. |
| , i | ranscribed by this Authority. | |
| | | |
| 4. With regard to the title, | he text is approved as submitted by th | e annlicant |
| | he text has been established by this A | |
| FLAME RETARDANT P | OLYOLEFIN COMPOSITION | NS |
| | | |
| | | · . |
| 5. With regard to the abstract, | | |
| X t | ne text is approved as submitted by the | applicant. |
| · un | ne text has been established, according Box III. The applicant may, within ternational search report, submit comm | to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears one month from the date of mailing of this nents to this Authority. |
| 6. The figure of the drawings to be put | blished with the shetmot in | |
| Figure Ma | suggested by the applicant. | · |
| | • | None of the figures. |
| | cause the applicant failed to suggest a | ~ |
| | cause this figure better characterizes t | ne invention. |

Form PCT/ISA/210 (first sheet)(July 1992)*

KELLY, Patricia L

Týped name of signer

Signature

The person signing this form is

Attorney/Agent (Reg. No.: 39,247)

Common Representative

Applicant



REQUEST

| ito. Seeming Office the only | _ |
|--|---|
| International Application No. | |
| International Filing Date | |
| Name of receiving Office and "PCT International Application" | |

The undersigned requests that the present international application be processed according to the Patent Cooperation Treaty. Applicant's or agent's file reference AD6516 (if desired) (12 characters maximum) Box No. I TITLE OF INVENTION POLYOLEFIN COMPOSITIONS Box No. II APPLICANT Name and address: (Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full official The address must include postal code and name of country. The country of the address indicated in this This person is also inventor. Box is the applicant's State (that is, country) of residence if no State of residence is indicated below.) Telephone No. E.I. DU PONT DE NEMOURS AND COMPANY 302-774-2383 1007 MARKET STREET WILMINGTON, DELAWARE 19898 Facsimile No. 302-773-0164 Teleprinter No. State (that is, country) of residence: State (that is, country) of nationality: US all designated States except the United States of America the States indicated in the Supplemental Box the United States all designated States This person is applicant of America only for the purposes of FURTHER APPLICANT(S) AND/OR (FURTHER) INVENTOR(S) Box No. III Name and address: (Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country. The country of the address indicated in this This person is: Box is the applicant's State (that is, country) of residence if no State of residence is indicated below.) GARCIA DURAN, Juan-Antonio applicant only 26 av. de L'Amandolier CH-1208 Geneve applicant and inventor Switzerland inventor only (If this check-box is marked, do not fill in below.) State (that is, country) of nationality: State (that is, country) of residence: the United States the States indicated in the Supplemental Box This person is applicant all designated all designated States except the United States of America for the purposes of Further applicants and/or (further) inventors are indicated on a continuation sheet. AGENT OR COMMON REPRESENTATIVE; OR ADDRESS FOR CORRESPONDENCE Box No. IV The person identified below is hereby/has been appointed to act on behalf agent common representative of the applicant(s) before the competent International Authorities as: Name and address: (Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full official Telephone No. designation. The address must include postal code and name of country.) 302-774-2383 KELLY, Patricia L. Facsimile No. E.I. DU PONT DE NEMOURS AND COMPANY 302-773-0164 Legal Patent Records Center 1007 MARKET STREET Teleprinter No. WILMINGTON, DELAWARE 19898 US Address for correspondence: Mark this check-box where no agent or common representative is/has been appointed and the

space above is used instead to indicate a special address to which correspondence should be sent.

| Sheet No. 11.7. | |
|--|--|
| Continuation of Box No. III FURTHER APPLICANTS AND/O | R (FURTHER) INVENTOR(S) |
| If none of the following sub-boxes is used, this she | et is not to be included in the request. |
| Name and address: (Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full office address must include postal code and name of country. The country of the address Box is the applicant's State (that is, country) of residence if no State of residence is ind ROLLAND, Loic Pierre Residence Metna 234 av. de la Grande Champagne F-01220 Divonne-les-Bains FR | ss indicated in this This person is: |
| State (that is, country) of nationality: FR State (that is, country) of nationality: FR | at is, country) of residence: |
| This person is applicant all designated all designated States exceptor the purposes of: | ept the United States the States indicated in the Supplemental Box |
| Name and address: (Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full office. The address must include postal code and name of country. The country of the address box is the applicant's State (that is, country) of residence if no State of residence is indicated in the applicant of the address must be applicant of the address of the applicant of the address of the applicant of the address of the add | s indicated in this This person is: |
| State (that is, country) of nationality: State (that | it is, country) of residence: |
| This person is applicant all designated all designated States exce for the purposes of: All designated the United States of Ame | the United States the States indicated in the Supplemental Box |
| Name and address: (Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full offic The address must include postal code and name of country. The country of the addres Box is the applicant's State (that is, country) of residence if no State of residence is indi | s indicated in this This person is: |
| State (that is, country) of nationality: State (that | nt is, country) of residence: |
| This person is applicant all designated all designated States exce for the purposes of: all designated the United States of American | pt the United States the States indicated in the Supplemental Box |
| Name and address: (Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full offic. The address must include postal code and name of country. The country of the address Box is the applicant's State (that is, country) of residence if no State of residence is indi | s indicated in this This person is: |
| State (that is, country) of nationality: State (that | t is, country) of residence: |
| This person is applicant all designated all designated States exce for the purposes of: all designated the United States of American | pt the United States the States indicated in the Supplemental Box |
| Further applicants and/or (further) inventors are indicated on another con | |

| Box 2 | So.V | DESIGNATION OF STATES | | | • | | |
|---|----------|---|--------------|-------------------|---|--|--|
| The following designations are hereby made under Rule 4.9(a) tmark the applicable check-boxes: at least one must be marked. | | | | | | | |
| Regional Patent | | | | | | | |
| AP ARIPO Patent: GH Ghana, GM Gambia, KE Kenya, LS Lesotho, MW Malawi, SD Sudan, SZ Swaziland. | | | | | | | |
| لا | Ar | UG Uganda, ZW Zimbabwe, and any other State which | th is a | Cont | racting State of the Harare Protocol and of the PCT | | |
| | | Eurasian Patent: AM Armenia, AZ Azerbaijan, E Moldova, RU Russian Federation, TJ Tajikistan, TM the Eurasian Patent Convention and of the PCT | 3Y B Turk | lelarus emenis | s, KG Kyrgyzstan, KZ Kazakhstan, MD Republic of stan, and any other State which is a Contracting State of | | |
| × | | Denmark FS Spain, FI Finland, FR France, | GB | United | erland and Liechtenstein, CY Cyprus, DE Germany, DK d Kingdom. GR Greece, IE Ireland, IT Italy, LU Sweden, and any other State which is a Contracting State | | |
| | | GA Gabon, GN Guinea, ML Mali, MR Mauritania, | NE I | Niger, of th | Republic, CG Congo, Cl Côte d'Ivoire, CM Cameroon, SN Senegal, TD Chad, TG Togo, and any other State e PCT (if other kind of protection or treatment desired, | | |
| Natio | nal P | atent (if other kind of protection or treatment desired, | speci | fy on | dotted line): | | |
| П | AL | Albania | | LS | Lesotho | | |
| $\bar{\Box}$ | | Armenia | | LT | Lithuania | | |
| | AT | Austria | | LU | Luxembourg | | |
| X | ΑU | Australia | | LV | Latvia | | |
| | ΑZ | Azerbaijan | | MD | Republic of Moldova | | |
| | B.A | Bosnia and Herzegovina | | | Madagascar | | |
| | ·BB | Barbados | | MK | The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia | | |
| | BG | Bulgaria | _ | | | | |
| \boxtimes | BR | Brazil | | MN | Mongolia | | |
| | BY | Belarus | | MW | / Malawi | | |
| \boxtimes | CA | Canada | | MX | Mexico | | |
| | CH : | and LI Switzerland and Liechtenstein | | NO | Norway | | |
| | CN | China | \Box | | New Zealand | | |
| | CU | Cuba | \sqcup | | Poland | | |
| × | CZ | Czech Republic | \vdash | | Portugal | | |
| Ц | DE | Germany | 닖 | | Romania | | |
| 닏 | DK | Denmark | | | Russian Federation | | |
| | EE | Estonia | | | Sudan | | |
| 닏 | ES | Spain | | | Sweden | | |
| 닏 | FI | Finland | × | | Singapore | | |
| 닏 | GB | United Kingdom | | SI | Slovenia | | |
| 닏 | GE | Georgia | 님 | | Slovakia | | |
| 廾 | GH | Ghana | | | Sierra Leone | | |
| 님 | | Gambia | \exists | TJ | Tajikistan | | |
| 님 | GW | Guinea-Bissau | | | Turkmenistan | | |
| 님 | HR | Croatia | | | Turkey | | |
| . | HU | Hungary | \exists | | Trinidad and Tobago | | |
| | ID | Indonesia | Η. | UA | Ukraine | | |
| 님 | IL | Israel | \mathbf{X} | | Uganda United States of America | | |
| × | IS . | Iceland | | US | Onned States of America | | |
| | JP KE | Japan Kenya | | 117 | Uzbekistan | | |
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| ĭ | KP | Democratic People's Republic of Korea | \sqcap | | Yugoslavia | | |
| _ | | | | | Zimbabwe | | |
| \boxtimes | KR | Republic of Korea | Cha | | xes reserved for designating States (for the purposes of | | |
| ō | KZ | Kazakhstan | | | I patent) which have become party to the PCT after | | |
| | LC | Saint Lucia | issu | ance o | of this sheet: | | |
| | LK | Sri Lanka | | | | | |

Precautionary Designation Statement: In addition to the designations made above, the applicant also makes under Rule 4.9(b) all other designations which would be permitted under the PCT except any designation(s) indicated in the Supplemental Box as being excluded from the scope of this statement. The applicant declares that those additional designations are subject to confirmation and that any designation which is not confirmed before the expiration of 15 months from the priority date is to be regarded as withdrawn by the applicant at the expiration of that time limit. (Confirmation of a designation consists of the filing of a notice specifying that designation and the payment of the designation and confirmation fees. Confirmation must reach the receiving Office within the 15-month time limit.)

LR

Liberia

Sheet No . . .4

| Box No. VI PRIORITY C | Land | further priority | claims are indicated in | the Supplemental Box. |
|---|---|---|--|--|
| Filing date | Number of earlier application | " " | There earlier application | is: |
| of earlier application tday/month/year) | of earner apprication | national application: country | regional application:* regional Office | international application: receiving Office |
| item (1) 25 July 1997 (25.07.97) | 97 20 2335.2 | EP | · | |
| item (2) | | | | |
| item (3) | | | | |
| of the earlier application | n(s) (only if the earlier international application | transmit to the International application was filed with is the receiving Office) iden is the indicate in the Supplemental led (Rule 4.10(b)(ii)). See Supplemental | the Office which for the tified above as item(s): | e |
| Box No. VII INTERNATION | ONAL SEARCHING A | UTHORITY | | |
| Choice of International Searching (if two or more International Se competent to carry out the international youthority chosen; the two-letter cod | arching Authorities are conal search, indicate the | Request to use results of ear search has been carried out by or Date (day/month/year) | requested from the Internation | |
| ISA/Js | | | · | |
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| This international application of the following number of sheets | This internation I. fee calcu | nal application is accompar lation sheet | nied by the item(s) mark | ced below: |
| request : | 4 2. separate | signed power of attorney | • | |
| description (excluding) sequence listing part) | O | general power of attorney; re | and the second s | |
| claims | 21 | t explaining lack of signatur | | |
| abstract : | 3. Expriority C | locument(s) identified in Bo | | |
| drawings | <u> </u> | n of international applicatio | _ | |
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| Figure of the drawings which should accompany the abstract: | | nguage of filing of the | e ENGI | _ISH |
| Box No. IX SIGNATURE O | OF APPLICANT OR AC | GENT | - | |
| Next to each signature, indicate obvious from reading the request | the name of the person | signing and the capacity in | which the person sign. | s (if such capacity is not |
| | | | • | |
| E.I. DU PONT DE NEMOURS | S AND COMPANY | | • | |
|)_ | 10 | Juan-Antor | nio Garcia Dura | n |
| William of | X VI | | | |
| MIRIAM D. MECONNAHE | J Meexical | ey | | |
| ASSISTANT SECRETARY | -PATENT BOARD | Loic Pieri | re Rolland | |
| | Forma | eiving Office use only | | |
| Date of actual receipt of the printernational application: | ourported · | croming office use only | | 2. Drawings: |
| Corrected date of actual receitimely received papers or dra purported international applic | wings completing the | | | received: |
| Date of timely receipt of the recorrections under PCT Article | required e 11(2): | | | not received: |
| 5. International Searching Authority (if two or more are competent | | 6. Transmittal until search | of search copy delayed fee is paid | |
| Date of receipt of the record cop by the International Bureau: | | mational Bureau use only | | |

The first speed of the Patent Board. Currently these Assistant Secretaries are:

Alanson G. Bawan, Jr.

Theodore C. Gregory

Miriam D. Meconnahey

The present Vice Chairman of the Patent Board is JAMES L. JERSILD.

In addition, the authority to act on behalf of DuPont before the competent International Authorities in station with any and all international patent applications filed by it with the United States of America as Receiving Office a make or receive payments on its behalf is hereby granted to:

| ## 30,457 HAMBY, Jane O. 32,647 MEDWICK, George M. 27,456 32,872 MORRISSEY, Bruce W. 30,663 30,853 MOYLES, Lisa J. P-40,73 MOYLES, Lisa J. MOYLES, Lis | NAME | REG.# | NAME | REG.# | NAME | REG.# |
|--|--|--|--|---|--|--|
| LD, David J. 25,338 MAYER, Nancy S. 29,190 YUN, Caroline J. 32,602 LBORY, Theodore C. 25,243 McGEE, Patricia 37,391 34,952 | WEN Jr., Alanson G. DWDER, Monte R. GESS, Richard H. USTENBURY, Lyane M. BTELLO, James A. TCH, Gerald E. FFY, Roseanne R. LL, John E. RIN, Barry NS, Craig H. YD, Linda Axamethy STNER, James A. NK, George A. IKE, Hilmar L. IAN, Andrew G. MAN, Thomas W. LD, David J. | 24,027 36,761 22,292 30,971 24,396 30,457 33,869 20,822 26,452 31,825 33,692 24,259 27,636 22,384 25,293 31,959 25,338 | HAMBY, Jane O. HAMBY, William H. HEISER, David E. HENDRICKSON, John S. HIGGS, W. Victor JACONETTY, Kenneth E. JERSILD, James L. KATZ, Elliott A. KELLY, Patricia L. KING, Karen K. KLOCKO III, John J. KRUKIEL, Charles E. LEVITT, Cary A. MAGEE, Thomas H. MAJARIAN, William R. MALINOWSKI, Andrea V. MAYER, Nancy S. | 32,872 31,521 31,366 30,847 25,877 32,508 25,594 26,396 39,247 34,850 24,059 27,344 31,848 27,355 P41,173 33,012 29,190 | MORRISSEY, Bruce W. MOYLES, Lisa J. SANTOPIETRO, Lois A. SCHAEFFER, Andrew L. SHAFER, Robert J. SHIPLEY, James E. SIEGELL, Barbara C. STEVENSON, Robert B. STRICKLAND, Frederick D. SULLIVAN, Daniel W. SUTHERLAND, Hoge T. TESSARL, Joseph A. TOCKER, Edwin TOWLER III, Oscar A. TULLOCH, Rebecca W. WALKER, P. Michael | 30,663 P-40,737 36,264 33,605 24,437 32,003 30,684 26,039 39,041 34,937 20,010 32,177 20,341 33,803 36,297 32,602 |

The undersigned ratifies fully all actions already taken by the above-named individuals in accordance with aprily granted hereby.

E. I. DU PONT DE NEMOURS AND COMPANY

| By: Lainin | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| JAMES L. JERSILD. | Vice Chairman of the Patent Board | |
| 522 7/3 | 7/67 | |
| | <u> </u> | |

| . p | CT | For receiving Office | e use only |
|--|---|--|----------------------------|
| | ATION SHEET the Request | International application No. | |
| Applicant's or agent's file reference | AD6516 | Date stamp of the receiving Office | |
| Applicant E.I. DU PONT DE NEMOUR | S AND COMPANY | | |
| CALCULATION OF PRESCH 1. TRANSMITTAL FEE 2. SEARCH FEE | | 240.00 T | |
| International search to be care (If two or more Internation application, indicate the name | al Searching Authorities are con | npetent in relation to the international ocarry out the international search.) | |
| 3. INTERNATIONAL FEE Basic Fee The international application first 30 sheets 0 x remaining sheets addition | contains 15 sheets | 455.00 b ₁ 0.00 b ₂ | |
| Add amounts entered at b 1 a Designation Fees The international application 9 number of designation fees payable (maximum 11) | contains 9 designations. 105.00 = amount of designation fee | 455.00 B 945.00 D | |
| international fee. Where the ap the total to be entered at I is 25% 4. FEE FOR PRIORITY DOCU 5. TOTAL FEES PAYABLE | are entitled to a reduction of 75% of plicant is (or all applicants are) so ent 6 of the sum of the amounts entered at 1 | P 2 890 00 | |
| The designation fees are not make the mode of PAYMENT authorization to charge deposit account (see below cheque postal money order | hank draft | coupons other (specify): | |
| DEPOSIT ACCOUNT AUTH The RO/ US is he is he | ORIZATION (this mode of paymereby authorized to charge the total dereby authorized to charge any deficosit account. | tent may not be available at all receiving Offices indicated above to my deposit account. Siency or credit any overpayment in the total or preparation and transmittal of the priority | fees indicated above to my |

04-1930

Deposit Account Number

Signature

23 JULY 1998 -

Date (day/month/year)



Europäisches Patentamt European Patent Office Office européen des brevets

Bescheinigung

Certificate

Attestation

Die angehefteten Unterlagen stimmen mit der ursprünglich eingereichten Fassung der auf dem nächsten Blatt bezeichneten europäischen Patentanmeldung überein.

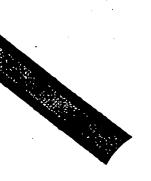
The attached documents are exact copies of the European patent application described on the following page, as originally filed.

Les documents fixés à cette attestation sont conformes à la version initialement déposée de la demande de brevet européen spécifiée à la page suivante.

Patentanmeldung Nr.

Patent application No. Demande de brevet n°

97202335.2



Der Präsident des Europäischen Patentamts; Im Auftrag

For the President of the European Patent Office

Le Président de l'Office européen des brevets p.o.

DEN HAAG, DEN THE HAGUE, LA HAYE, LE

24/11/97

EPA/EPO/GEB Form 1014 - 02.91



W.G.F. VAN ROSMALEN



INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No. PCT/US98/15229

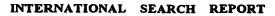
| | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| IPC(6) | SSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER :CO8L 51/06; CO8K 3/00, 3/26, 3/32 | | | | |
| | :524/504, 524, 531, 400, 416, 425, 444, 445, 451 to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both | national classification and IPC | | | |
| | DS SEARCHED | The state of the s | | | |
| | ocumentation searched (classification system follower | by classification symbols) | | | |
| | ` ' | by classification symposis, | | | |
| U.S. : | 524/504, 524, 531, 400, 416, 425, 444, 445, 451 | | | | |
| Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched | | | | | |
| Electronic d | lata base consulted during the international search (na | me of data base and, where practicable. | search terms used) | | |
| | e Extra Sheet. | | | | |
| C. DOC | UMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT | | | | |
| Category* | Citation of document, with indication, where app | propriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. | | |
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| X Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex. | | | | | |
| * Special categories of cited documents: "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand | | | | | |
| *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered the principle or theory underlying the invention | | | | | |
| *E* ear | rlier document published on or after the international filing date | "X" document of particular relevance; the considered novel or cannot be considered. | | | |
| *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is when the document is taken alone cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other | | | | | |
| *O* do | ecial reason (as specified) cument referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other sans | "Y" document of particular relevance; the considered to involve an inventive combined with one or more other such theirs obvious to a person skilled in | step when the document is h documents, such combination | | |
| "P" do | cument published prior to the international filing date but later than s priority date claimed | *&* document member of the same paten | | | |
| Date of the actual completion of the international search 09 OCTOBER 1998 Date of mailing of the international search report 30 OCT 1998 | | | | | |
| Commissio Box PCT | mailing address of the ISA/US oner of Patents and Trademarks n, D.C. 20231 | Authorized officer MARK WARZEL | | | |
| - | ii, D.C. 20231 | Telephone No. (703) 308-0661 | | | |



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| 13-53; column 3, lines 15-46; column 4, lines 29-35, 45-47; | |
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International application No. PCT/US98/15229

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Electronic data bases consulted (Name of data base and where practicable terms used):

APS File USPAT:

- S ETHYLENE
- S VINYL ACETATE
- S CARBON MONOXIDE
- S L1(4A)L2(4A)L3
- S TERPOLYMER# OR COPOLYMER#
- S L4(10A)L5
- S GRAFT###
- S POLYOLEFIN#
- S L1(4A)L2
- S (L9 OR L8)(8A)L7
- S L6 AND L10
- \$ 525/71,73,78,80/CCLST OR 524/504,524,531,400,416,425,444,445,451/CCLST
- S L12 AND L11
- S L11 NOT L13